

March 2, 1984

LB 682

These tasks will be carried out by clerks, not by the officials. Officials will have to declare their conflicts but they will not have to provide additional paper work beyond an initial filing. Other paper work will be done by clerks. Secondly, I produce penalties. I have made it clear that upon declaration of an interest that they can stay in the room and watch the voting. They don't have to leave the room for voting. We have also indicated that clear set of situations in which family members are covered for the purposes of conflict of interest. This has never been the case in Nebraska law. We simply use the catchall phrase "indirect relationship". We now declare this to be spouse, children and parents. In the event you as an official are doing business with your spouse, your child or your parent, that is a conflict of interest if money is changing hands and you control the money. When the conflict occurs, you need to report that and forbear from voting on that issue. The other provisions of the bill are summarized in the committee amendments, the committee report rather, and I would move for the advancement of LB 682. Let me give notice that there are a couple of amendments, both by Senator Johnson and Senator Jacobson, that point up certain provisions of the bill and I have agreed to discuss those in length on Select File at the appropriate time. I would move for the advancement of 682.

SPEAKER NICHOL: Senator Jacobson.

SENATOR JACOBSON: Mr. Speaker and members of the Legislature, I would like to thank Senator Landis for many hours of hard work that he has put in on this bill and that it was brought to my attention and later to his attention on how this bill does affect people involved in a political subdivision. For example, under the present statute, if you are a city councilman and you sell a load of two by fours to the school board or if you are an oil dealer and you sell a tank load of oil to the school for heating, you must file with the Disclosure Commission, and if you fail to file, you are subject to a felony. This is pretty stiff penalties for the people that work in our city government, our school boards, our NRD's and so forth, county commissioners. I think and we all know that in a town like Scottsbluff,